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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
Nebraska Numismatic Association

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COIN HUSKER

Nebraska Numismatic Association

April 2004

In This Issue

From the President Page 2
Convention Highlights Page 3
Johnson County Numismatic Society Show Page 4
News Briefs Page 6
If I Were A Coin Page 10
NTCA Token Show Page 11
Calendar Page 12

COIN HUSKER is the publication of the Nebraska Numismatic Association. Articles are solely the views of the authors. Your questions, suggestions, articles, or advertising are avidly solicited. N.N.A., P.O. Box 82, Omaha, NE 68101-0082.

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back."

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello,

The NNA convention in Fremont went very very well. The good organization ability from Bob Missel, the show chairman, and the Fremont Coin Club. Steve Drake and others did an outstanding job with the YN auction held for the young in the Fremont area. The banquet in the evening had a very interesting speaker on how the Civil War affected Nebraska. Thanks again to all the dealers and the people attending the show. It was a great convention. Now schools out, lots of weddings and anniversaries being celebrated, as we move forward in each of our communities. Have a good summer.

Your President,

Buzz Rumbaugh

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

The 49th Annual Nebraska Numismatic Association Convention was held at the City Auditorium in Fremont. Convention chairman Bob Missel did a great job in planning the event.

Bob Kutcher won Best of Show and Most Educational Exhibit with his exhibit "Coins of the Bible."

Other Exhibits

"A Few Old Coin Boards"
by John Veach

"Some Different Companies That Slab Coins"
by Francis McGovern

"Byzantine Anonymous Follies"
by Jim Jeffries

The convention banquet was held at the Fremont Eagles Club. Guest speaker Jim Gibney gave an excellent talk on how the civil war affect our lives today and how it influence the settling of Nebraska.

It was announce that Secretary-Treasurer Steven Drake would be resigning at the close of the 2005 convention. Also, he will no longer be editor of the club's newsletter "COIN HUSKER." Steve has been editor amount 20 years.

Next year the club will vote on changing the constitution to have the Secretary-Treasurer position be appointed by the Board of Governors. If you are interested in being Secretary-Treasurer be sure to contact President Rumbaugh.

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NEWS BRIEFS

ENCASED COLLECTORS INTERNATIONAL

Encased Collectors International, on-line club, exists for the purpose of advancing the knowledge and the field of encased coin collecting. *ECI* is dedicated to the promotion, discussion and dissemination of facts and ideas about encased coinage, both domestic and world-wide. *ECI* exists as a vehicle to bring collectors of both foreign and domestic encased coinage together in a professional and relaxed atmosphere where they can exchange information, display photos and engage in lively debate about encased coinage.

ECI is governed by a Board of Officers selected from the membership. Being an "on-line" organization, there are NO membership dues. Registration for membership can be found at: www.encasedcollectorinternational.org.

Civil War Era Numismatic Seminar & Battlefield Tours

The American Numismatic Association (ANA) presents a 3-day numismatic tour of the American Civil War. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be immersed in the turmoil of the single greatest event that shaped America and in the official and non-official money spawned by the conflict. Learn from specialist David Schenkman about encased postage stamps, Civil War tokens, Confederate money, and sutler tokens – how and why they were made and used.

Tour six Civil War Battlefield sites: Harpers Ferry, Antietam, Manassas I & II, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, lead by professional numismatist and battlefield tour guide Colonel Steven Ellsworth, a graduate of the National War College in Washington D.C. and the National Defense university and a direct descendant of Colonel Elmer Ellsworth, the first Union officer killed in the War. Steve's broad perspective offers valuable insights into tactical, strategic, and political aspects of the Civil War.

Students begin their journey back to the 19th century on Sunday, August 22 in Shepherdstown, West Virginia with a two-night stay at the beautiful and historic Bavarian Inn on the Potomac River, and continue on for one night in Fairfax, Virginia. The package also includes 3 breakfasts, daily box lunches, and travel in a deluxe air-conditioned bus. The journey concludes at Dulles Airport on Wednesday, August 25 at 3:30 PM. Tuition, meals and accommodations: $896 single/$695 double. Tuition only: $595. For more information, contact Gail Baker at: education@money.org.

Smithsonian's Coinage Exhibit to Close Permanently

After 40 years of educating the public about numismatics, the National Museum of American History, part of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. will close public access to the world's largest collection of money and medals in August. The collection, consisting of 1.6 million coins, medals, and pieces of currency, will remain available to scholars or be loaned to other museums. Among the most valuable U.S. items in the museum's Numismatics Hall are two 1933 $20 gold pieces and threee example of the 1804 silver dollar, the "King of Coins."

The decision to close the exhibit is the result of a restructuring after an official panel criticized the institution's organization. According to a museum press release. "The original design scheme of separate subject halls will be updated as the museum moves to thematic presentations."

New York Transit Tokens

New York City Transit Authority (TA) spokesman Paul Fleuranges announced that TA is soliciting bids on what to do with the 45.6 million transit tokens in storage. Replaced by the modern and convenient MetroCard. Also, in storage, are 4,000 pounds of foreign coins and slugs and $90,000 worth of damaged U.S. and Canadian coins the ageney hopes to redeem. In 1998 the Transit Authority sold 60 million tokens to a recycling company that melted them down to extract valuable metals.

Fleuranges said there's no reason to keep obsolete tokens around any longer. However, collectors with a token nostalgia can purchase them at the Transit Museum in Brooklyn or the TA store in Grand Central Terminal.

Pennies

According to the U.S. Mint's latest annual report, "it costs0.98 of a penny to make a penny. So we're still looking at a profit," says U.S. Mint spokesman Michael White.

The Mint sells the coins to the Federal Reserve at face value and passes any profit on to the U.S. Treasury. In 2003 $64.3 million worth of cents coins were produced at a cost of $63.3 million.

Previous annual reports had the production of the coin costing 0.89 cents in 2002 and 0.80 in 2001.

Membership Application Form

NEBRASKA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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I belong because I want to take advantage of the exceptional educational programs and seminars.
I belong because I want to attend world-class conventions, where I can exchange ideas with others and learn from their experiences.
I belong because the ANA represents my interests on state and federal levels.
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If I Were A Coin

By Amanda Rondot

If I was a coin, then what would I be?
Where would I go, and whom would I see?
What would I be made of, copper, silver, gold?
Would I be more recent or very, very old?

Would I be a drachma from the ancient Grecks,
High relief outstanding, beautiful and sleek,
Held by the kings and in the merchants touch,
With the lure of rare beasts, mythology, and such?

Or would I be a cash coin, minted in the East?
Without me there is famine, but with me a feast.
I may not be the prettiest, with very little art,
But I serve my purpose, both functional and smart.

Perhaps I'd be denarius, freshly made for Rome,
Passed from hand to hand, across the realm I roam.
With the emperor's portrait, his mottos, and all,
I bear the news from place to place, at every port of call.

Or would I come from Lydia, the earliest to be?
A lump of metal with a punch, I am not much to see
But as the first one of my kind, I herald things to come.
I will come to rule the state, the region, and then some.

Would I be an English coin, from the days of yore,
Reminiscent of the bogs and misty days on moors?
I date before Will Shakespeare's time (isn't that a shame),
Within my lifetime I have seen great kings and queens of fame.

Though all these coins are worthy, wonderful, and grand,
Still they are somewhat hard to understand.
Maybe it's the time gap, a silly thought, I know,
Perhaps it's the distance- that's quite a ways to go!

So perchance Id be a doubloon, a brand new piece of eight.
As the workhorse of the world, I sail to meet my fate.
Tossed upon the stormy seas, will my ship go down?
I will reign in the New World, provided I don't drown.

But still something's missing, still something's sour.
Though I'd love to see the world and wield mighty power,
Destined I am sure I'm not, for something near as fine.
To stay near home and work my days- this modest lot, tis mine.
But that's not to say I'm average, so please don't get me wrong,
It is still a regal line, the series to which I belong.
Though this is true of most all coins, no matter what they are,
I still feel that as a coin, I rank above the par.

So I think I'd be a gold coin, an eagle I suppose.
All day long I'd stretch my wings to fly where no one knows.
When nightfall came Id furl my wings and settle down to rest,
Knowing that in spreading beauty, I had done my very best.

This poem was in The American Numismatic Association Your Newsletter, March 19, 2004.

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CALENDAR

Sept. 4-5	NTCA National Token and Medal Show hosted by the Omaha Coin Club, Holiday Inn's Ford Hall, I-80 & 72nd Street, Omaha
Aug. 18-22	American Numismatic Association Annual Convention, David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA
Oct. 16-17	Johnson County Numismatic Society, Lenexa Community Center, Pflumm Road at Santa Fe Trail Drive, Lenexa, KS
Dec. 4-5	Omaha Coin Club Annual Show, Millard Social Hall, I-80 & Hwy. 50, Omaha

FUTURE N.N.A. CONVENTIONS

2005	50th Annual Convention, hosted by the Lincoln Coin Club, April 16-17, Lincoln, NE

If your club would like to host a future Nebraska Numismatic Association Convention, Please send your bid to the NNA.

SYMPATHY

The Nebraska Numismatic Association would like to express our sympathy to the family of Russell Thatcher, Life Member No. 6, who passed away this spring.. Also, the Nebraska Numismatic Association expresses our sympathy to Shirley Rumbaugh's family. Shirley was the wife of NNA President M.F. "Buzz" Rumbaugh. Shirley passed in May.

DID YOU KNOW?

The American Numismatic Association can be found on the
World Wide Web at
www.money.org

Statewide Meeting Nights

Fremont – Fremont Coin Club, 3rd Saturday, The Evangelical Free Church Social Hall, 20th & Lincoln Streets, 7:30 PM

Grand Island – Grand Island Coin Club, 1st Monday, Blue Flame Room, Gas Company

Lincoln – Lincoln Coin Club, 2nd Thursday, Hampton Inn, Old Cheney Rd. & Hwy 2, 7:00 PM

Nebraska City – Nebraska City Coin Club, 3rd Tuesday in Jan, Feb, May, Sept, Nov, Nebraska City Fire Department downtown, 7:00 PM

North Platte – Platte Valley Coin Club, 3rd Tuesday, Northwestern Public Service Co. "Blue Flame Room" 215 E. 5th St., 7:30 PM

Omaha – Omaha Coin Club, 3rd Friday, New Cassel Retire Center's Auditorium, 900 No. 90th St., 7:30 PM

Omaha – SAC/Midwest Coin Club Coin Club, 1st Tuesday, Denny's Restaurant, 84th & I-80, 7:00 PM

Scottsbluff – Oregon Trail Coin Club, 2nd Wednesday, McDonald's Office, 511 West 27th, 7:30 PM

South Sioux City – Siouxland Coin Club, write for information; 901 S. Cecelia, Sioux City, Iowa 51106

Seward – Nebraska Token Collectors Club, 2nd Sunday, Cattle National Bank 2:00 PM

Wahoo – Wahoo Coin Club, 1st Saturday, Saunders County Historical Museum, 240 N. Walnut, 8:00 PM

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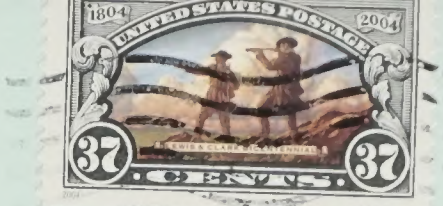

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